

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on February 20, 2007, and the references cited therewith.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 8 and 11. Applicant previously canceled claims 22-30. Accordingly, claims 1-21 remain pending in the application, of which claims 1, 6, 8 and 11 are independent.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, claims 8-12 and 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As recited in the Office Action, independent claims 8 and 11 are directed to methods for calculating a maximum likelihood sequence estimate, however the estimate is not calculated in the claims. Applicant has amended claims 8 and 11 to address this concern. Thus, the rejection is obviated and should be withdrawn.

Claims 9, 10, 12 and 17-21 were rejected as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Based on the amendments to independent claims 8 and 11, this rejection is also obviated. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Also in the Office Action, claims 8-12 and 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 8 and 11 discussed above also obviate this rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 and 13-16 are indicated as being allowed. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for this indication of allowance. Applicant notes that in view for foregoing, claims 8-12 and 13-16 are also allowable as the Office Action does not set forth any prior art rejections. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the foregoing amendments and issue a notice of allowance for claims 1-21.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and earnestly requests notification to that effect. The Examiner may telephone Applicant's attorney (360-930-3533) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3521.

Respectfully submitted,

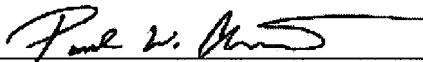
Brake Hughes Bellermann LLP

Customer Number 57426

360-930-3533

Date May 21, 2007

By



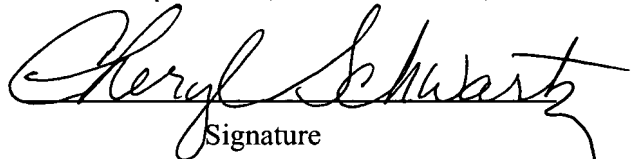
Paul W. Churilla

Reg. No. 47,495

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 21st day of May, 2007



Cheryl Schwartz



Signature